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Marshall Wins Variety Award

NFB Ontario Men Hold Conference

Increased popularity of the new Canada Carries On series and the need of bringing this to the attention of exhibitors, was the theme of an address given by Douglas H. Peacock, co-ordinator of theatrical distribution for the National Film Board, at

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Fox Preps Five For May Dates

Twentieth Century-Fox will release five pictures during the month of May, it was announced recently by Andy W. Smith, Jr. general sales manager. The May releases are "Fury at Furnace Creek," "The Iron Curtain," "Arthur Takes Over," "The

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USA Secretary Of State Honored By Barkers

The 1947 Humanitarian Award of Variety Clubs International went to the USA Secretary of State, George C. Marshall "With deep appreciation of his measureless service rendered in behalf of world-wide peace," that phrase having been inscribed on the silver plaque which symbolizes it. With it went an elaborate scroll and an honorarium of $1,000.

Marshall's selection, announced in Miami Beach during the 12th annual convention of the amusement world's greatest service organization, was made by a panel of judges drawn from among the leading American editors and was made known by Robert J. O'Donnell of Dallas, Texas, Inter-

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Honorary Mention For Tent 28

Tent 25, Boston, was given Variety Clubs International Charity Citation Award for 1947 at Miami, while Tent 28, Toronto, received honorary mention.

Boston got the honor for its children's cancer clinic while Toronto's nod came through its plan for a vocational guidance school for Ontario's crippled youngsters.

Judges were Jay Emmanuel, The Exhibitor; Maurice Kann, Motion Picture Herald; and Arthur Ungar, Hollywood Variety.

Next Variety Meeting

Next meeting of Toronto Variety will take place at 5.30 p.m. on April 28th at the Fiesta Room of the Prince George Hotel.

Attendance Drops In Nova Scotia

Attendance by those paying regular admission prices dropped 1,203,604 at Nova Scotia's 76 theatres during the fiscal year ended November 30th, 1947, according to the annual report of S. A. Doane, chairman of the Board of Censors, submitted re-

(Continued on Page 3)

Four Houses Open More Under Way

With the return of milder weather the pace of industry construction has quickened tremendously. Four new theatres threw open their doors, three got under way, two were set for an early start and five more reached the planning stage. In addition,

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Record Year Rung Up By Famous Players

A new all-time high for net profits was set by Famous Players Canadian Corporation in the 53 weeks ending January 3rd, 1948, the figure reaching the total of $3,156,446, according to the 28th annual report to the shareholders by J. J. Fitzgibbons, president. That figure remained after deduction of $1,801,592 for income and excess profits taxes and compares with $2,834,-956, the net profit for the 52-week period in 1946 which set a new record for earnings up until that time.

The profit represents $1.81 a share on 1,737,072 shares of

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Bid For David Niven

J. Arthur Rank and Sir Alexander Korda have both put in bids for the services of David Niven this summer in England.

O'Donnell Held Over As Variety Chief

International Chief Barker Robert J. O'Donnell of Dallas, Texas, hard-working and popular leader of Variety Clubs International, was re-elected at the 12th annual convention in Miami Beach and will preside over the 13th when it is held in San Francisco next year. Chicago and Mexico City bid for the next convention of the amusement world's great charity organization but both withdrew in favor of the Northern California city. Luis Montes, chief barker of Mexico City, which was favored by many delegates, yielded to San Francisco in a gracious

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'Unfaithfully Yours'

Rex Harrison and Linda Darnell will star in 20th-Century-Fox' production, "Unfaithfully Yours."

Alberta Censors Banned Four Films

Two full-length movie features and two shorts were rejected in their entirety by the Alberta Censor Board during 1947, according to the Board's annual report issued recently.

In addition 117 cuts were made in dialogue and scenes in 71 other productions. A total of 2,130 standard-gauge and 4,899 narrow-gauge films were reviewed by the Board, with only one of the latter being banned.

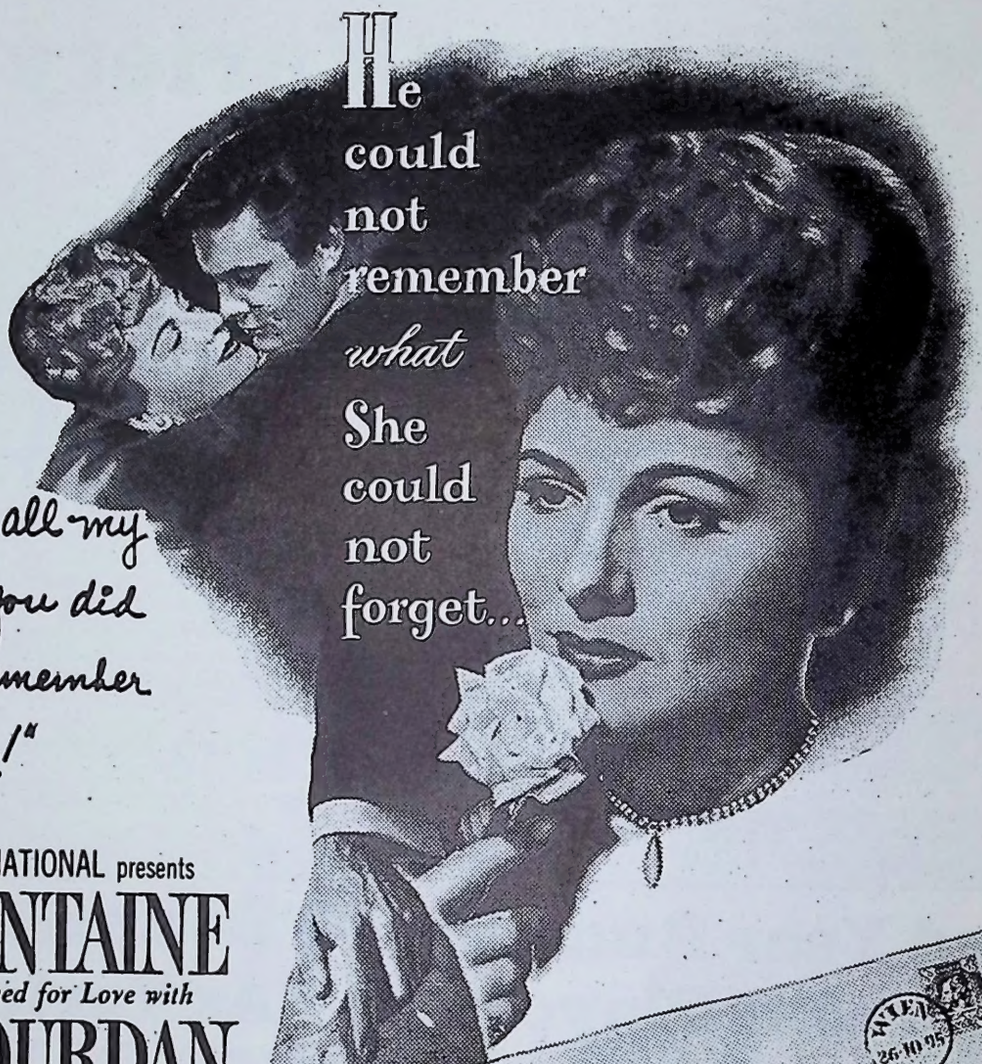
Empire-Universal's "Brute Force" and RKO's "The Devil Thumbs a Ride" were the two feature films banned. The shorts "Scram" and "Let's Go Latin" were the two the censors disapproved of.

In the Board's opinion the pictures rejected portrayed "brutality, sadism and viciousness in the extreme. Eliminations generally flouted principals of morality and the boundaries of good taste."

Ruthless Zachary SCOTT — Lucille BREMER — Louis HAYWARD
Diana LYNN — Sidney GREENSTREET — Martha VICKERS
WATCH FOR this EAGLE LION (Hollywood) STAR-PACKED film from INTERNATIONAL FILM DISTRIBUTORS Ltd.

A LOVE SONG . . .

TO THE OLD AND AMIABLE VIENNA



"I gave you all my love... yet you did not even remember my name!"

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL presents

JOAN FONTAINE

Unforgettably Matched for Love with

LOUIS JOURDAN

Romantic New Star of 'The Paradine Case'

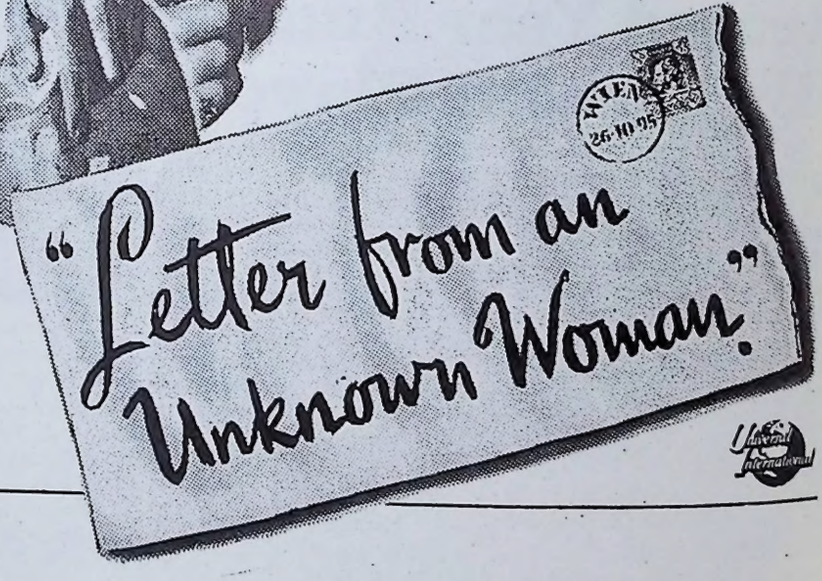
with MADY CHRISTIANS

MARCEL JOURNET · ART SMITH · CAROL YORKE

Screenplay by Howard Koch · From the Story by Stefan Zweig

Produced by JOHN HOUSEMAN · Directed by MAX OPULS

A RAMPART PRODUCTION



ANOTHER OUTSTANDING ATTRACTION

FROM *Empire-Universal* FILMS LTD.

Attendance Drops In Nova Scotia

(Continued from Page 1)

cently to the Provincial Legislature. The board, which is a section of the Treasury Department, showed in its yearly account of the film industry that 9,898,092 were admitted and that it was the third consecutive year in which theatre business declined. The decrease in the 1946 period totalled 971,970 and in 1945 it was a negligible one per cent drop from the record 1944 figures.

In addition to the regular admissions, 1,138,255 children visited theatres at Saturday afternoon and statutory holiday matinees at which no tax tickets were used, a loss of 14,134 from the previous 12-month period.

The number of admissions to all places of amusement in the Maritime province was 12,384,868 compared with 13,510,357 in the previous fiscal year. Of the total all but 1,348,521 attended motion picture performances. Theatres yielded $263,761 in amusement taxes as against $294,009 the year before. Other places paid $63,164 in taxes, an increase of $6,176.

Total income of the Board of Censors diminished by $12,291 to total $409,313. Screening of films netted $20,315, Parimutuels $14,568 and Itinerants $34,412. Other sources of revenue were licenses and fees for theatres, film exchanges, projection machines and operators and apprentices.

A total of 2,764 film subjects were submitted for censorship, 309 more than last year. Forty-six were stamped as unsuitable for children and objectionable scenes were cut from 16 others before being approved. There were 564 features submitted for inspection and of the total of all films reviewed 47 were British, one was Australian and the rest were American productions.

Theatre Properties Net Profits Down

Net earnings of Theatre Properties (Hamilton) Ltd., for 53 weeks ended January 3, 1948, are reported at $33,655, equal to 34.7c a share, compared with $39,222 or 40.5c a share for the 52 weeks ended December 28, 1946. Net operating profit totalled $118,253.

Working capital of only $11,653, reflects refunding of first mortgage bonds and compares with $104,202 at end of 1946. Bonds outstanding to the principal amount of $477,100 were redeemed and a new $320,100 2¾% issue sold. Current assets total $29,110 and current liabilities $17,457.

Record Year Rung Up By Famous Players

(Continued from Page 1)

common stock outstanding, also a new high. Previous high was the $1.63 per share on the same capitalization set in 1946. Actual dividends paid out to shareholders during the year, including extras, totalled $2,518,754, equivalent to $1.45 per share.

Although gross income from theatre operation was higher, states Fitzgibbons, earnings from operation show a decrease because of increases in salaries and wages granted employees to contend with the continuing rise in the cost of living. Comparative figures are $4,332,239 for the last 12 months as against $5,599,248 for the previous year. Dividends received were $431,772 as compared with $330,968 and that difference plus the lowering of the taxes by the government helps to account for the greater profit on the year's business despite the lowered earnings from operations.

The report shows the earned surplus at $11,999,806 against $11,362,113 a year ago while total curent assets of $8,206,441 and current liabilities of $822,154, leaves a net working capital of $7,384,287, a net decrease of $600,141 during the year. The drop is accounted for by expenditures made on new theatres and on modernization of others.

During the year the company and its associates built and put into operation ten new theatres situated in Toronto, Montreal, Amherst, NS, Campbellton, NB, and Sudbury, Marathon and Virginiatown in Ontario. Eighteen additional theatres are under construction and are scheduled to be completed before the end of the year. The substantial amount of working capital on hand is expected to be sufficient to provide the funds necessary for the completion of the new houses and also provide for investment in new properties.

Relations with the company's more than 4,000 employees continued on a harmonious basis, stated Fitzgibbons. The Famous Players' 25 Year Club has increased its membership to 131. More than 75 per cent of the employees eligible had taken advantage of the benefits offered by the company's Group Hospital and Surgical Insurance Plan that was first established in 1946. The Group Life Insurance Plan provides insurance coverage of nearly $3 millions for employees.

In touching on television Fitzgibbons said "The world-wide experience and 'know how' of our affiliations in the United States in theatre construction and operation and the benefits of the experience of those affiliates in the entire Television field, including the manufacture of Television broadcasting and receiving equipment and the operation of Television stations in several large cities in the United Sates and the application of that means of entertainment to motion picture theatres, continues to be available to the company."

In summing up Fitzgibbons listed the fine results in the company's business as due to the great assets it had in its associates, affiliates and valued veteran employees in every department. He extended to them the company's sincere thanks and appreciation.

Officers listed in the report were John J. Fitzgibbons, CBE, president; R. W. Bolstad, vice-president and treasurer; and Noel G. Barrow, secretary. The board of directors remained unchanged from the previous year.

Nova Scotia Will Relinquish Tax

Indications are that Nova Scotia admission prices will drop 20 per cent when the Federal Government vacates the amusement tax field. Premier Angus L. Macdonald stated that while his government had "not come to any definite conclusions yet," he recalled a statement in the legislature last year that it was not his intention to reimpose the federal tax when it was dropped.

R. S. Roddick, Famous Players' Maritimes head, said that the saving would certainly be passed on to the public.

Adult Entertainment

"Each Dawn I Die," "Your Red Wagon" and "East of Piccadilly" were recently placed on the "Adult" list by the Ontario Board of Censors.

Twentieth Century Sells Two, Adds Two

Twentieth Century Theatres recently completed four deals involving transfer of theatres.

The company purchased the 732-seat Scarboro in Toronto from B & F Theatres and also leased the 470-seat Rio in Sudbury, Ontario, from Mrs. Frank Fera. At the same time it was announced that the 742-seat Community, Toronto, had been sold to B & F Theatres and the 453-seat Avalon, also in Toronto, had been sold to the Stern Brothers.

BOB O'DONNELL

Delegates at Miami Beach re-elected him International Chief Barker of the Variety Organization.

O'Donnell Again Variety Chief

(Continued from Page 1)

speech during which he asked consideration of Mexico City for 1950.

Other international officers re-elected were Carter T. Barron, Washington, first assistant chief barker; C. J. Latta, Albany, second assistant chief barker; Jack Beresin, Philadelphia, property master; and Marc Wolf, Indianapolis, dough guy. Among the appointive big top officials are Chick Lewis, New York, chief of public relations and convention head, and John J. Fitzgibbons, Toronto, international canvasman and a member of the international committee.

The organization of showmen, who maintain tents in 33 cities, pledged themselves to raise $2,020,135 for charity next year. This marked a slight increase over the $2,000,000 which they have devoted to hospitals, children's schools and camps and other such institutions during the current year.

Largest individual pledge was made by the Dallas tent, which pledged $300,000 for charity. Los Angeles with a pledge of $200,000 ranked second. Detroit was third with a promise of $150,000. Toronto pledged $50,000.

The convention also voted to advance up to $7,500 in emergency aid for the William Morris Tuberculosis Sanitarium at Saranac Lake, NY, where about 75 retired and ill showmen are receiving care.

It was announced that Allied Artists would make "Bad Boy," a film about juvenile delinquency and the work of the Dallas tent to combat it, Walter Wanger having withdrawn.

Miami

Variety

Miami Meanderings

Florida is the flower in the hair of that beautiful lady, America.

Miami Beach is where the summer spends the winter.

This is where the prefabulous Miami of your imagination becomes the fabulous Miami, the reality bettering the dream.

Here is where you grin at the sun and it reciprocates with a smile that can be blistering as well as friendly. It all depends how you take it.

By night, seen from high up in that lush and financially exclusive colony known as the Roney Plaza Hotel, Miami Beach is a bed of neon flowers of all colors growing and glowing out of the soil-black night.

By day it is a wonderland colored with aquamarine, floral greens and pastel shades.

The trunks of the cocoanut palm trees, curved into many attractive shapes by countless winds, make one think of lithe and sinuous dancing girls, while the branches sway gracefully and almost collectively in their own old and enchanting rhythm.

But let me now ruin this rhapsodic mood with a bit of crass comment. Although this is the end of the season and prices have dropped, a dollar goes about as far here as it does in a dining car.

On second thought, that is quite an understatement.

* * *

And Then I Arrived

The trip to Florida wasn't very interesting. Railroads, while they are comfortable, take you through the shabby end of towns and seem to sneak into your destination under cover of gloom.

We were greeted at the station in Miami City by a delegation of barkers and a group of lightly-attired cowgirls. They escorted us across one of the three great causeways that snake across Biscayne Bay and link the city to Miami Beach. There other members of the host tent provided a gay welcome, with gifts of Variety canes, oranges, Puerto Rican rum, passes and so on.

And so we arrived at the 12th annual convention of Variety International and soon found Morris Stein and Rube Bolstad. And George Ganetakos of Montreal too. George sat with the boys at the Variety meeting. Then Joe Franklin of Halifax called up. Joe played host, driving me here, there and everywhere and what I saw because of his kindness made me realize that if Mother Nature has a favored child in her American family, this is it. Believe it or leave it, it's even better than its publicity.

* * *

You Can't Exaggerate Miami

For years friends and relatives sent me those folded series of colored postcards and I used to look at them, convinced that the art of printing was used to give Miami attributes it lacked naturally. I found out the printing couldn't match the truth. Joe Franklin, the Maritime circuit man, has a home here, where he has been regaining his health, and he drove the Bolstads and yours truly around.

We saw the old N. L. Nathanson home and we stopped to inspect a place that had been vacated by Mayor Kelly of Chicago. They wanted $135,000 for it and as it happened I was short of a few bucks so I passed it up. But I stretched out on the mayor's bed while the agent wasn't looking. As with the rest of the territory, you have to see the house to believe it.

Morris Weiss of Toronto came around to the Variety sessions and you'll be glad to hear that he's coming along pretty good and will toss his cane into Biscayne Bay one of these days.

The hospitality of George C. Hoover, Mitch Wolfson and their fellow-barkers of Miami is on par with the climate, scenery and buildings. By now you know that means unparalleled. They are as generous as nature was to their settlement and their work for charity, which is outstanding now in Variety circles, is only beginning.

They Didn't Forget Canada

Canada may be The Unknown Country, as one of our leading writers called it, but it isn't the forgotten one so far as Variety is concerned.

The first thing Bob O'Donnell did after opening the meeting of all delegates was to call attention to the presence of the Canadians and tell how sorry he was that John Fitzgibbons, our chief barker, couldn't be on hand. He spoke highly of Toronto and Canada and his remarks brought the biggest hand registered during the first few days.

Then that admirable gentleman from Texas, the droll and witty Colonel Bill McCraw, rose to review his visits to the various tents and their work. "Those Canadians ran hog wild last year," he told the barkers. "Never visit Toronto or Memphis. They won't let you get away again." The Colonel, an authority on hospitality, thus matched ours with the traditional southern brand.

Since the Miami newsreel representatives had been ordered to the Bogota revolution just before we arrived, a special crew came up from Washington under Hugo Johnston for the White House Press Association. Most of their first day's work was photographing the Canadian delegates with the Mexicans, then with the International officers and so on.

It was the idea of Frank Boucher, Washington's chief barker, to have the White House crew come up—and that Canada should interest them. Scratch an American and you often find Canadian content. Frank's dad is from Hull and the last time he was in Toronto was the year the Royal York was opened. This lad is as big in spirit as he is in size—and he's big.

No sir, the maple leaf wasn't forgotten among the palms.

* * *

They Do Things Right Here

An example of hospitality was that by Barker Dick Berenson, head of the Biscayne Fronton, where that jumbo-sized and speeded-up version of handball called Jai Alai is played. Although the season was over by a few days and the plant closed, Berenson kept players and staff in Miami until we arrived and everything went on as though scheduled.

The thrilling contests were preceded by acts from the Havana Madrid and the group singing of the players, who are Basques. Mitch Wolfson and Bob O'Donnell donned Cestas, the basket-like glove which the players use to propel the over-lively ball that comes back like a projectile. O'Donnell did a better job than Wolfson of imitating the players but showed up with his arm in a sling the next day. That'll learn this Texan that he just ain't as fast on the draw as he used to be. Or will it?

They have a mutual betting system on the games like we have for horse racing, and you can bet teams, players and even a daily double choice. They don't believe that old adage about never betting on anything that talks.

Another fine event was the South Sea Island party, staged where MGM made "They Were Expendable" and Esther Williams' next, "On an Island With You." Some of the sets were still standing. They had a sky-written welcome, bathing, surf-riding, a circus set-up with several stages where Hawaiian dancers and musicians entertained.

There was a clown band which roamed around and serenaded barkers and their ladies with popular songs lauding their states. No, they didn't play the Maple Leaf anthem or rag. We didn't think they knew it so we didn't ask. Tons of barbecue and thousands of bottles of coca-cola and beer, as well as mountains of ice-cream and countless hot dogs were distributed gratis.

So far it has been the thrill of half-a-lifetime and it is only half over at this writing. But the big thing to everyone is the fact that every type of North American accent has been heard in praise of Tent 33 and in support of Variety. But the chief accent is on fun and fraternity.

Paramount Pictures

THE GREATEST CURRENT LINE-UP IN ANY ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

Recent survey by Boxoffice Magazine shows that during the six-month period beginning last September, eight Paramount pictures placed in the HIT brackets. Count 'em below!

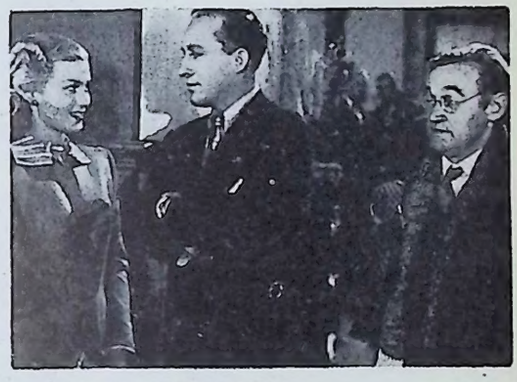
UNCONQUERED. Cecil B. DeMille's great showmanship film, with enough cast names to fill this page (Cooper and Goddard shown), is being shown across the Dominion at regular prices.

WHERE THERE'S LIFE is sure of a good press, such as Bob Hope is giving this button in order to convince Bill Bendix. Signe Hasso also takes up lots of Bob's time, too.

I WALK ALONE is the argument that Burt Lancaster tries to sell to Lizabeth Scott. But Liz says "Nix." The argument also involves Kirk Douglas and Wendell Corey both of whom croak.

WILD HARVEST. "Hay, where are you going?" inquires Alan Ladd of Dorothy Lamour (Who returned from "RIO" PDQ). Robert Preston and Lloyd Nolan are in it, too.

ALBUQUERQUE. It's about time our keyboard had a single key to strike that name. This Cinecolor exciter is one of the year's top grossers.



WELCOME STRANGER. Now we ask you —would you turn your back on Barry Fitzgerald the way Bing Crosby does when he addresses Joan Caulfield?

GOLDEN EARRINGS has achieved a national success that is far more than 'hear' say. Milland here pictured, is quavering before Dietrich. Tens of thousands of fans know the reason why.

ROAD TO RIO. "At all costs we must watch the grosses" says Bob Hope to Bing Crosby as Dorothy Lamour (we presume) goes by. Mirth by the mile and music by the score.

"If It's a Paramount Picture, It's the Best Show in Town!"

Four Houses Open More Under Way

(Continued from Page 1)

Canadian Film Industries Limited has purchased an extra acre of land immediately to the north of its studio on Lakeshore Road near Toronto and plans to construct a single-storey building to house an auxiliary stage, a storage room and paint and carpentry shops.

Biltmore Theatres Limited recently opened its de luxe Toronto house, the Biltmore. Situated in the heart of the downtown section, the theatre has 950 seats in the orchestra and balcony and cost approximately $350,000. Policy is first run and push back seats are a feature of the loges.

Another theatre which opened in Toronto was Odeon Theatres' new Odeon Danforth. Designed by the late Jay English, the house has 1,350 seats and cost an estimated $500,000 to build. Policy is day-and-date with the Odeon Fairlawn, a theatre which the new one resembles closely. Push back seats are featured in the loges.

Odeon also premiered its Roxy Theatre in Brampton, Ontario. The Roxy is the first Quonset-type structure to open in Canada and has 618 seats. A new record for speed of construction was set in the building of the Roxy, the work taking exactly 18 weeks.

Wilfred Mainville opened his 400-seat Rose Theatre in Ste. Therese, Quebec, recently, the first in that community.

Work has started on three theatres, the 300-seat Lux in Two Hills, Alberta, being built at a cost of $38,000 by Walter Dowhanuk; a 600-seat $150,000 project in Richmond Hill, Ontario, being constructed by Edwin C. Hill of the Richmond Amusement Company; and a $75,000 house to replace M. Pyrcz' 350-seat Gayety in Leduc, Alberta, destroyed by fire last February.

May 1st has been set as the starting date for two theatres in British Columbia—the Famous Players' 900-seat $200,000 Paramount in Kelowna and the 350-seat $45,000 Warren Theatres' house in Qualicum.

In the planning stage is a 700-car $40,000 drive-in to be built near Oshawa, Ontario, by H. Ochs; a 600-seat $40,000 structure for Whitby, Ontario, builders of which are Grant Farrow and Bruce Nicholson; a 600-seat $100,000 replacement for the fire-gutted Forrest and Phillett Brothers' Rex in Flin Flon, Manitoba; Dr. Armand Thibeault's 600-seat $50,000 house in La Tuque, Quebec; and Warren Theatres' 350-seat $45,000 theatre in Parksville, BC.

NFB Ontario Men Hold Conference

(Continued from Page 1)

a conference of the Ontario field representatives held recently at Dagmar, Ontario.

Introduced by Vaughan Deacon, Ontario supervisor of the NFB, Peacock continued the topic of publicity and promotion brought up by E. S. Coatsworth of the Toronto office.

Emphasizing that the purpose of the Canada Carries On series had changed radically since war days, Peacock stated that the series was now intended as an additional link in joining the scattered communities across Canada. The success of this policy of enabling Canadians to learn more about their fellow citizens in other provinces could be judged by the results. Over two million people a month now see the NFB's theatrical series and latest figures indicate that many more theatres are signing up to exhibit the series in local communities.

At present nearly 350 Canadian theatres are exhibiting the new Canada Carries On series, and many more have indicated interest in doing so. It was pointed out that the NFB's field representatives, although primarily engaged in 16 mm. community work, should attempt to assume more responsibilities towards promoting the series with exhibitors in their areas, emphasizing the definite improvements in production made by the Board in the past year.

Peacock then pointed out that, although not to be regarded necessarily as a precedent, the feature type of film, such as "R.C.M.P. File 1365," which was released last year and which has already been exhibited in over three hundred Canadian theatres, has helped increase the popularity of the NFB's theatrical releases both with the general public and with exhibitors.

In answering questions from the floor, Peacock brought attention to, and expressed his thanks for, the co-operation the theatre industry has provided in promotion and exhibition of the Board's theatrical subjects — Columbia for distributing the CCO's and Astral Films the French versions. Astral is now marketing the Board's second all-French series, "Vigie," for Quebec and other French-speaking areas.

Chief speaker at the conference was Dr. Roby Kidd, assistant director of the Canadian Association for Adult Education, who lectured on effective use of visual aids in community work, with special emphasis on adult education.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 13, No. 17 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

Personal Column

with Lucille Ball, George Sanders, Boris Karloff

United Artists 102 Mins.

MYSTERY AND MELODRAMA SERVED UP WITH INTELLIGENCE, MIGHTY FINE PRODUCTION AND PERFORMANCES ABOVE THE ORDINARY.

With plenty of interesting plot here is a dexterous number for the general audience. It is mystery and melodrama served up with intelligence, mighty fine production, interesting backgrounds and performances many cuts above the ordinary. Cast includes Charles Coburn, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, George Zucco, Alan Mowbray, Joseph Calleia.

London is the setting. Atmosphere conjured up leans heavily on the queer doings on foggy nights. Young girls disappear. They answer strange personal ads in newspapers and are not heard from anymore. There is a deranged poet involved in the doings. He sends rhymed lines to Scotland Yard. Then a report filters in of a missing person.

Miss Ball at the beginning is a dance hall hostess, stranded in the big town. Her friend Lucy answers an ad. That's the last of her. Miss Ball joins the police. As bait in the trap she first catches Boris Karloff, a demented clothes designer. Second time out she rounds up Mowbray and Calleia. They send girls to South America to engage in rackets. George Sanders up to this time in the background as an an admirer of Miss Ball, reappears and she bends to his endearments. A wedding is in view. Night of their engagement a couple of clues show up and incriminate Sanders. The evidence convicts him. Once again Miss Ball offers herself up as bait and the plan clicks.

Yarn has inclination to slow up. Interest is sustained, nevertheless. General suspenseful buildup to climax is smartly handled in direction of Douglas Sirk.

CAST: George Sanders, Lucille Ball, Charles Coburn, Alan Mowbray, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, George Zucco, Joseph Calleia, Boris Karloff.

CREDITS: A Hunt Stromberg Production; Producer, James Nasser; Director, Douglas Sirk; Screenplay, Leo Rosten; Photography, William Daniels.

DIRECTION, Good.
PHOTOGRAPHY, Very Good.

Fox' 'Road House'

Ida Lupino and Cornel Wilde star in Fox' "Road House."

Black Bart

with Yvonne De Carlo, Dan Duryea, Jeffrey Lynn

Empire-Universal 80½ Mins.

GENERAL PROGRAM OFFERING, THIS WESTERN IS ROUTINE WITH FEEBLE APPLICATION OF GLAMOR.

No doubt the scripters of this Technicolor western were on the alert for a new twist. They have involved an historical figure—Lola Montez — in this tale of who's robbing the stagecoach and how he meets his end. It is a western with plenty of trimmings to rate a place on the general run of programs. Percy Kilbride injects a couple of comic lines into the proceedings. Dan Duryea and Jeffrey Lynn engage in a battle of wits. Miss De Carlo makes with Spanish dances.

When all the standard western elements are added up they amount to a routine affair of little distinction outside of glamour which hardly fits the genre.

In the time it takes the yarn to run its course we see Duryea, Lynn and Kilbride meeting up in an early version of Sacramento where Duryea, as "Black Bart," is making it awkward for Wells Fargo to operate. With the arrival of Lynn and Kilbride, old criminal cronies, things start to happen but not the way Duryea planned them.

His last stickup misfiring, Duryea and Lynn go after the money at nearby Roseville where they are ambushed by the law and eliminated from the scene. It might rate as a western with shooting, riding, plus dances. George Sherman directed.

CAST: Yvonne De Carlo, Dan Duryea, Jeffrey Lynn, Percy Kilbride, Lloyd Gough, Frank Lovejoy, John McIntyre.

CREDITS: Producer, Leonard Goldstein; Director, George Sherman; Original story, Luci Ward, Jack Natteford; Screenplay, Luci Ward, Jack Natteford, William Bowers; Photography, Irving Glassberg.

DIRECTION, Effective
PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

'The Shamrock Touch'

"The Shamrock Touch" is the release title for Fox' Tyrone Power - Anne Baxter starrer formerly named "Leave it to the Irish."

Holiday Camp

with Flora Robson, Jack Warner, Hazel Court, Dennis Price

Eagle-Lion 97 Mins.

SHREWDLY HANDLED STORY OF BRITAIN'S HOLIDAY CAMPS EMERGES AS FINE DIVERTING AND REWARDING ENTERTAINMENT.

With many story segments and wide range, this new Sydney Box film for J. Arthur Rank's Gainsborough unit, measures up as an entertainment shrewdly handled to get the most from its interesting basic ingredients. At first the general aspect is like a disturbing jigsaw puzzle but when the pieces are made to fit into their right niches it all adds up to become a fine, diverting and rewarding entertainment that should deal out satisfaction all around the theatre.

The British Holiday Camp, to which hundreds come each year, as documented herein, has a basic similarity to the "Grand Hotel" theme with the exception that the transients are simple, holidaying people seeking brief diversion from daily and yearly routines. For some it is romance. Another is eluding the police—he's wanted for murder. Gamblers look for innocents to clip. Straying wives look over the male field. Young lovers are advised, assisted. Man-hungry women go to their doom. This is the undercurrent of human activity that stirs up the proceedings.

The treatment is stimulating and the pace never fails. It generates laughter of a warm human type and runs a fairly complete drama gamut. For those in the audience who like their anatomy, the footage parades plenty of British femininity in bathing dress. It is done in good taste, cleverly. Ken Annakin directed.

CAST: Flora Robson, Dennis Price, Jack Warner, Hazel Court, Emrys Jones, Kathleen Harrison, Yvonne Owen.

CREDITS: A JAR Gainsborough Production; Produced by Sydney Box; Director, Ken Annakin; Screenplay by Muriel and Sydney Box, Peter Rogers; From an original story by Godfrey Winn.

DIRECTION, Very Good.
PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

Relentless

with Robert Young, Marguerite Chapman, Willard Parker

Columbia 93 Mins.

STRAIGHT WESTERN DRAMA IN TECHNICOLOR WITHOUT FRILLS; SHOULD GIVE PLENTY SATISFACTION.

This is the ticket for the audience that likes westerns without frills, but with a good plot well played out by a cast of first-rate competents. Too, they also get here an intelligently fashioned story that embraces most of the required western elements generally found in such scripts. As westerns go it is long in time but the material of the plot is well knit and brought out smartly with proper accompaniment of blood. thunder, romance and the like.

A word might be said for the outdoor photography in Technicolor. It contributes a great deal to the production bringing out and emphasizing the contribution of outdoor locations.

Robert Young drifts into a desert town with a mare in foal. When he leaves he meets up with Marguerite Chapman and shortly thereafter is incriminated in a trio of murders. He did kill one man, justifiably. A hunted character, he is aided from time to time by Miss Chapman who has taken a fancy to him. She operates a rolling general store and gets about.

The reward price on Young's head mounts from $100 to $500, but he manages to elude the law while he seeks out Barton MacLane, the real culprit. Wounded in a brush with Sheriff Willard Parker, Young falls into the clutches of Akim Tamiroff and Mike Mazurki, a couple of baddies. They know about a mine claim that is connected with the murders and tie Young in with it. He eludes them, again aided by Miss Chapman and goes into the desert where he engages MacLane in a gunfight. Tamiroff and Mazurki also show up, so does Miss Chapman and Parker. Before he dies MacLane clears Young.

CAST: Robert Young, Marguerite Chapman, Willard Parker, Akim Tamiroff, Mike Mazurki, Barton MacLane, Robert Barrat.

CREDITS: A Cavalier Production; Producer, Eugene B. Rodney; Director, George Sherman; Screenplay, Winston Miller; Based on a story by Kenneth Perkins; Photography, Edward Cronjaeger.

DIRECTION, Very Good.
PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

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BIGGEST SUNDAY SINCE "SINBAD" AT BROADWAY'S PALACE, N.Y... *HELD OVER!*

and

BIGGEST BUSINESS IN MONTHS AT GRAND, CHICAGO... *HELD OVER!*

and

SENSATIONAL AT THE RIALTO, SALT LAKE CITY... *HELD OVER!*

First three openings click to Top Tarzan Business across the board . . . as Dave Edwards, Genl. Mgr. of Joseph Lawrence Theatres keys exhibitor comment: "Finest Tarzan we have been privileged to play! Excellent opening and audience reaction!"

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Sol Lesser presents EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS'

TARZAN AND THE MERMAIDS

starring JOHNNY WEISSMULLER · BRENDA JOYCE

and introducing LINDA CHRISTIAN

Produced by SOL LESSER · Directed by ROBERT FLOREY

Original Story and Screenplay by CARROLL YOUNG

Based Upon the Characters Created by EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

Marshall Wins Variety Award

national Chief Barker.

Unable to receive the award personally because of his presence at the Pan-American Conference in Bogota, Columbia, Marshall will be presented with it in the fall at a dinner in Washington, to be held during the Variety big top's mid-term meeting.

Marshall is the third USA Secretary of State to receive the award, the others being Cordell Hull and James R. Byrnes. In the past the coveted honor has also gone to Father Flanagan, founder of Boy's Town; Martha Berry of Georgia; George Washington Carver, the great Negro scientist; Sister Kenny of Australia for her polio therapy; Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of penicillin; and the Salvation Army's Evangeline Booth.

Harold E. Stassen of Minnesota, leading candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, delivered a non-political address at the dinner which marked the end of the week-long convention. It was at this dinner that the Humanitarian Award was to have been presented.

Jack Warner of Warner Brothers was host to the barkers at a cocktail party which preceded the dinner.

Canadians Welcomed

The opening of the week-long series of business meetings in the Surf Room of the Roney Plaza Hotel, convention headquarters, was marked by a special welcome to Canadian and Mexican delegates by Bob O'Donnell, who presided.

Explaining that the foreign exchange problem prevented the participation of any Canadians but the official delegates of Tent 28 (Morris Stein, chairman of the Heart Committee, and Barker R. W. Bolstad), O'Donnell said that they could be considered unofficial representatives of the British Isles, which would likely have its own barkers at next year's meeting from a tent being organized in London now. The Canadians, who shared the front table, received a hearty ovation from the hundreds of delegates in attendance.

The gathering was informed that Chief Barker John J. Fitzgibbons, of Tent 28, Toronto, an International canvasman, was unable to be present because of industry-government business in Ottawa and his absence was regretted. Stein delivered the report of the Heart Committee of the Toronto tent and it was warmly and loudly received by the delegates.

USA Secretary Of State Honored by Barkers In Miami Beach

(Continued from Page 1)

Before taking up the business of the meeting the delegates heard words of welcome from Mitch Wolfson, Assistant Chief Barker of the host tent, No. 33. "The theme of this convention is friendliness," he said. "The members of our tent are going to make you feel that this is one of the friendliest conventions you ever attended. If that happens we will all be happy."

Reports of the officers constituted the opening business. Chick Lewis, public relations chief and convention chairman, expressed himself as being pleased at the manner in which the public had come to recognize Variety's contribution to North American life and he praised the work of the tents in building up goodwill for the industry. Like O'Donnell, he was grateful to Paramount for its "Variety Girl" film, which led to wide publicity and the raising of funds. Marc Wolf of Indianapolis, the International Dough Guy, revealed that not one Variety tent was now in arrears.

Of major interest was the report of Col. William McCraw, executive director, who reviewed the work of the various tents, all of which he has visited in the past few months. "In every tent I saw the zeal, energy and sincerity of the most remarkable charitable body in the world," he said. "Every tent has a different problem but they all do the same great work." Two million dollars had been expended on charity during 1947.

Decisions Reached

Among the rulings established and the resolutions passed:

To standardize the use of the figure of the barker and Variety insignias.

To eliminate subsidiary tents and invite Houston — presently a subsidiary of Dallas—to apply for its own charter before the next annual meeting.

To instruct tents not to solicit advertising for their local publications except in their own business areas.

To forbid the organization of women's auxiliaries.

To allow individual tents to make annual heart awards to local persons either in or out of the organization who had performed outstanding humanitarian services.

To grant the International Chief Barker power to appoint the international publicity chairman, convention chairman, chairman of the Humanitarian award committee and ceremonial offerer.

To provide that tents select as their international canvasmen or committeemen immediate past chief barkers and select as alternate canvasmen present chief barkers.

To provide that canvasmen represent their local tents at the organization's annual mid-winter meeting.

The delegates defeated a resolution providing that a runner-up award be added to the annual humanitarian award of the international organization.

The All-Time Best

There is no question on the part of those in a position to judge that Miami's welcome is the greatest of any convention to date. Members of the host tent, located in America's playground, placed welcome signs and banners everywhere. Store windows, marquees, hotel lobbies and other places featured Variety material, as did automobiles and busses.

Most remarkable was the press coverage this year, arranged by Tom Jefferson of Paramount Enterprises in Florida, with the aid of Al Wilkie and Tom Baldridge, UA Memphis publicity representative and a member of that city's tent. The press corps registered is the greatest yet. Every Pittsburgh paper had a man present, as well as some in other cities, while the local press pitched in heartily.

On hand also were Hye Bossin, Canadian Film Weekly; Arthur Ungar, editor of Hollywood Variety; Chick Lewis, Showman's Trade Review editor; Jay Emmanuel of The Exhibitor and other publications; Al Steen for the Hollywood Reporter; Red Kann, Motion Picture Herald; and Jack Alicoate, Film Daily.

They found everything about the convention newsworthy, particularly the amazing lineup of entertainment attractions for the visitors, including in it dog races, horse races, jai alai, a vast barbecue and circus party, a fashion show, cocktail parties, cruises and other things.

It will be hard for any future host tent to top this convention but San Francisco wants to try in 1949.

At Variety Convention

Delegates to the 12th annual convention of the Variety Clubs International assemble to discuss business in the Surf Room of the Roney Plaza Hotel, Miami Beach.

On the left are the delegates from Tent 28, Toronto, Morris Stein and Rube Bolstad. The former delivered the report of Toronto's Heart Committee, which he heads.

Fox Preps Five For May Dates

(Continued from Page 1)

Counterfeiters" and "Anna Karenina."

Production details of the releases follow:

"Fury at Furnace Creek" stars Victor Mature and Coleen Gray with Glenn Lagan and Reginald Gardiner. Directed by Bruce Humberstone and produced by Fred Kohlmar. Written by Charles G. Booth and additional dialogue by Winston Miller. Suggested by a story by David Garth.

"The Iron Curtain" stars Dana Andrews and Gene Tierney with June Havoc, Berry Kroeger, Edna Best, Stefan Schnabel, Nicholas Joy, Eduard Franz and Frederic Tozere. Directed by William A. Wellman and produced by Sol. C. Siegel. Screen play by Milton Krims. Part of the picture was filmed in Ottawa, Canada.

"Arthur Takes Over," a Sol M. Wurtzel production, with Lois Collier, Richard Crane, Skip Homeier, and Ann E. Todd. Directed by Mal St. Clair. Screenplay and story by Mauri Grashin.

"The Counterfeiters," a Reliance Picture, starring John Sutton, Doris Merrick, Hugh Beaumont with Lon Chaney as "Louie." Produced by Maurice H. Conn and directed by Peter Stewart. Screenplay by Fred Myton and Barbara Worth from an original story by Maurice H. Conn.

Alexander Korda's production of "Anna Karenina" by Leo Tolstoy, a London Film production, starring Vivien Leigh and Ralph Richardson, with Kieron Moore and Sally Ann Howes. Directed by Julien Duvivier.

Tulsa Court Denies Restraint Order

A Tulsa, Oklahoma, court recently denied the application of Gerald L. K. Smith for a temporary restraining order against the showing of 20th Century-Fox' "Gentleman's Agreement" at the Orpheum Theatre in that city.

Order was asked by Smith becaust of unflattering reference to him in the dialogue of the film.

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CANADIAN FILM WEEKLY
25 Dundas Square, Toronto

Canadian Fans Vote in British Poll

Above photograph shows the lobby of the Capitol, Hamilton, where C. T. Spencer, manager, set up a very fine display and polling booth for moviegoers to register their votes in the London Daily Mail's annual poll of the best British actor, actress and film. Canadian ballots were sent to England and tabulated.

Almost 3,000,000 voters picked John Mills as the best actor and Margaret Lockwood as the best actress, with "The Courtneys of Curzon Street" being selected as the top film.

UA Signs Small

United Artists will release two top-budget westerns to be produced by Edward Small. First to go will be "War Path," starring George Montgomery.

Final Title Set

"Martin Rome", is the final tite for the 20th-Fox' Victor Mature-Richard Conte starrer formerly titled "The Law and Martin Rome."

NEW GOVERNMENT ORDER

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Royal Wedding Gifts New Eagle-Lion Pic

Eagle-Lion Films of Canada will shortly release in the Dominion a Technicolor short subject, "Royal Wedding Presents." As the title implies it deals with the gifts received by the Royal Couple from all over the world and specially features the presents from the Dominions. It is a logical sequel to the "Royal Wedding," which Eagle-Lion also distributed and which outdrew many features on the same programs.

Taken at night at St. James Palace in London, where the gifts were seen by some 260,000 persons who braved heavy downpours at times to view the display, the film was produced by Castleton Knight. He and his crew were insured for over a half million pounds against loss or damage during the filming. Background music is by Ernest Irving, famous British composer and symphony leader.

Eastern Theatres Ltd. Annual Statement

Eastern Theatres Limited, a Famous Players subsidiary which operates Canada's largest theatre, the Imperial in Toronto, recently presented its 1947 statement.

While income declined slightly from $241,990 in 1946 to $199,094 last year and net profits dipped from $103,870 to $101,292, the company found itself in a much stronger position at the end of the last fiscal period. Dividends paid out was exactly double at $32,000, going from 50 cents a share to $1. Working capital increased $47,630, current assets jumped $38,766, taxes dropped $40,000, current liabilities dropped $9,000 and earned surplus rose sharply from $313,357 to $381,815.

Saskatoon To Drop Amusement Tax

City council of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, recently voted to drop the 20 per cent amusement tax entirely when and if the Federal Government decided to remove it. The Saskatchewan government had previously announced that it would not seek to reimpose the tax as a provincial one and by so doing had indicated that the field was open to the municipalities.

As theatre owners had pledged to pass on to patrons all savings from the removal of the tax, the council stated that the admission prices would be lowered proportionately to the decrease in taxes and would be of direct benefit to the lower bracket income earners who were most in need of relief from high taxation.

EAGLE-LION

Only *Treats*

Exhibitors So Royally

Last year we brought you
the Industry's top money-making short

The Royal Wedding
in
TECHNICOLOR

This year we bring you
two more for the same kind of smash business

1. *The Royal Wedding*
PRESENTS

COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

Actually filmed in St. James Palace. Over a quarter of a million Londoners queued for weeks in rain, sleet and snow to see the magnificent, priceless wedding gifts from all over the world.

2. *Silver Wedding*
ANNIVERSARY

All the exciting highlights in the lives of King George and Queen Elizabeth.

Contact your Eagle-Lion exchange for early dates on both of these J. Arthur Rank Productions

AIM HIGH WITH

THE ADVENTURES OF

"Robin Hood"

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LONG OPENING LINES!
LOBBY HOLDOUTS!
IT'S AS SOLID NOW AS WHEN IT WAS FIRST RELEASED BY
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THE SPLENDOR OF IT ALL IN COLOR BY
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STARRING
ERROL FLYNN
OLIVIA deHAVILLAND

with BASIL RATHBONE · CLAUDE RAINS
and ALAN HALE · EUGENE PALLETTE

directed by MICHAEL CURTIZ
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Original Screen Play by NORMAN REILLY RAINE and SETON I. MILLER • Based Upon Ancient Robin Hood Legends